Johnson, I am pained to say, is not a rare cognomen. On the contrary, it is confoundedly common. Then my first name, John, is not of unfrequent occurrence. Oh, why did not my parents call me Ichabed, or Bezalcel, or Magormissibib, or some other good old Testament name. that would have distinguished me from the thousand-and-one other Johnsons?

"There is a letter advertised for you," said my partner one fine morning.

I was expecting a letter from one of our collectors out West, so I went to the post office to see if that might be the expected

"Letter advertised for John Johnson?" said I to the clerk.

"Where from, probably?" asked he.

"Somewhere out West," " This is postmarked Illinois." "That is it then," I hazarded.

He gave me the letter and I returned to the store. This is what it contained:

" DEAR BUT CRUEL JOHN-Do return and all will be forgiven. Your children cry for you, and if you do not wish them to hate you, come back to us again. You shall have your own way in all things, dearest John, if you will only return to your heart-broken wife,

MEHETABEL JOHNSON." Truly, a nice letter for a respectable bachelor to receive. I was ashamed of myself for having made such a mistake, and dared not re-enclose the letter to "John Johnson" and mail it again. It seemed as if everybody would know that I had opened another man's correspondence. I fancied that the post office clerk would jeer and scoff at me, and think it only a ruse on my part to avoid meeting the responsibility of ill treating and descriing that poor wife and those lachrymose children. I know that my fears were absurd, but I dared not look at the letter again. I thrust it in to my pocket, and resolved to burn it as soon as I should be alone.

I forgot it. Miss Eliza Sprowls reminded me of it. I am-no, I was-engaged to Miss Eliza Sprowls, and in a moment of tenderness, she offered to sew a defaulting button on my coat. She returned it with a note, in which she enclosed the wretched letter from Mrs. Mehetabel Johnson, of Illinois. Miss Sprowls words were few:

"Base deceiver! I have loved you! Now, farewell forever! Return to the woman you have so foully wronged, but nevermore hope for forgiveness from ELIZA."

And all that from being unfortunate enough to bear the name of John Johnson! I was in despair, and became, I am

pained to say, somewhat irrascible. I quarreled with my partner, and had difficulty in avoiding a collision of a personal nature-not wholly unconnected with black and blue eyes-with our carman. Just after these little matters were adjusted, my tailor, a prosy man with a gray face, came

He wanted to make me a uniform ! Me ! If there is any one thing I am unlikely to business in Water street-" do, it is to wear soldier-clothes. I detest the army. War, I acknowledge, is a good sir.' thing, and soldiers are very necessary, but buttons and gimp enrage me. A plumed perished nobly at the battle of Bull Run, hat gives me vertigo. It is a pschycologi-cal idiosynerasy of mine to detest the army, "Stop, sir. Do I look like a and I don't care if it unphilosophical.

me-a desire to kick my tailor out of the counting-room. I became sareastic.

"Ah! My uniform! Yes, I suppose now you think my figure would become a waistbelt and tight coat-don't you? Eh?"

I weighed two hundred and twenty-eight pounds avoirdupois, and am only five feet

"A snug fitting coat, sir," began the tailor, "is always considered.

"Yes-yes; n snug fit to this"-tapping my digestive organs gently-" would

command! Ha, ha, ha!" last degree.

the army.

I asked him in a tone of score, what gave him such a ridiculous notion.

He produced a newspaper, in which it was stated that Mr. John Johnson was netively engaged in organizing a regiment of the Shackles' Brigade, and the coloneley My adversary knew the wrinkles of the law, had been effered him by all the men so far

I used as strong language as a respectable gentleman of business ought ever to employ, to convince the man that the John Johnson he had read about was not the John Johnson he was thinking about; and he retired quite crest-fallen, with an evident belief that he had lost my patronage.

On going to my hotel to dinner—I al-

ways live at a hotel—I found about forty mitted.

thin notes awaiting me. They proved on inspection to be duns. There was a bill of nineteen dollars and was a bill of afteen dollars from my hatter. paign on the Southern coast. There was a bill of forty-three dollars and seventy-five cents from a gentleman's clothbills. A rough total which I eliminated as I expected, and I always thought it amounting to the pleasing sum of one hundred and ninety odd dollars!

Most of these tradesmen had known me dog, and you will be sure to succeed. I was thunderstruck! and enjoyed my patronage for fifteen years, I had paid them every Christmas as regularly as Christmas came. Was it Christmas stick to folks." Wouldn't it be better to tice of Medicine. Office back of Polk &

Was I crazy? I was in a fair way to become so, when the boys began to call to collect the bills. The rascally tradesmen knew my dinner hour, and sent their menials to catch me on

the formula which greeted me from some dozen dirty youths.

"Tell your master to mind his business," was my reply—as I now see it, an illogical

"Does your master think I am going to fail?" I asked the most intelligent of those youths.

"Oh, no, sir; not going to fail," replied the boy; "but then, sir, battle is danger-ous, and nobody knows when anybody enlists, whether everybody will be killed, or whether somebody will come back. And" continued he, apologetically, "master likes to keep these things square, you know. It prevents confusion.

I understood at last that the military John Johnson had been again mistaken for me. It did not soothe me at all. I'm afraid I used very rash and hasty words Make a note of it, that concerning that gentleman and his regi-

I had to write a series of notes to all these persons, explaining that I would pay them, as usual, at Christmas, as I hadn'

the wildest intention of going to the wars. They were all satisfied except a cross-eyed person, who had furnished me with some lozens of bottled ale. He thought I was rying to slip him, and has sent a boy twice day, quite regularly down to this present

writing. He may continue to do so.

Miss Eliza Sprowls was obdurate. I consumed three days in writing her a letter of explanation. She returned it unopened; and my heart is still like a lonely ringdove, whose mate has perished by the destroying hand of an insatiate fowler.

Only the other day a lawyer completed ny cup of woe. He came to my partner to learn if I had left a will. "He hasn't left any will with me," said

my partner.
"Where would he be likely to have left

one?" asked the legal man. "Well, I should say at his hotel among other private papers."

The lawyer took my address, and calling found me at home. He introduced himself, and said:

"Have you charge of Mr. Johnson's effects?"

"I have." " You are-" " Mr. Johnson." "Ah! a relative?"

"Of whom?" " The deceased." "Relative of a good many deceased per-

ons, I believe, sir. "The deceased John Johnson I mean." "I am John Johnson."

"But I wish to find the will of the gentleman of that name who came from Eng-

land in childhood-" " I came from England in childhood, sir." "Who began life as an office boy in a bonded warehouse-"

"I began it in that way, sir." " But afterwards went into the drysalting

"I am in that business, in that street,

"Who raised a regiment of Zouaves, and

"Stop, sir. Do I look like a Zouave? You mean me, sir, evidently, in all your I restrained the fierce desire that seized items of description but the last. On your conscience, now, (a strange expression to employ towards a lawyer!) do I look like SCHOOL AND MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS,

He acknowledged that I did not. My relatives in England had learned that John Johnson was killed at Bull Run, and on inquiry had been informed that I was the man. It was known that I was doing well and had accumulated "something comfortable." So over they sent, with an indecent

haste, to see what they could get hold of. I never saw such a man as that lawyer. be considerable, certainly. Ah, now don't He expressed regret in every line of his ATTORNEY & COUNSELLOR you think I have a commanding appearance! countenance at my condition of health and Ha, ha! Don't you see? I ought to be in command! Ha, ha, ha!" vitality. His language even implied that he was sorry that I had not fought, bled, My effort at a laugh was painful to the and died on the gory field. I got angry. I took the lawyer by the nose. It was The tailor began to feel astonished, if prominent. I led him rather gently to the not distressed, and was duly astonished to head of the stairs, passed him more violearn that I had no idea whatever of joining lently in front of me, elevated my right boot to the level of his coat-skirts, and kicked him twice with the utmost vigor.

> He went down stairs eccentrically, and fractured his nose on the step. The result was, an action for assault and battery. I was fined, and had to pay costs. and made my unfortunate name cost me just eighty-three dollars and thirty-eight

Yet my name is still John Johnson!

A fellow stole a saw, and on trial told the judge he only took it in a joke. "How far did you carry it?" asked the judge .-"Two miles," answered the prisoner.—
"That's carrying the joke too far," remarked the judge, and the prisoner was com-

Gen. Harney has gone to Fort Monroe. It is thought he will have command of the fifty cents from my boot maker. There reinforcements and participate in the cam-

"Well, Robert, how much did your ing establishment. There was no end of Pig weigh?" "It didn't weigh so much

If you can't coax the fish to bite,

now? I wondered. Christmas, with the say that "felks stick to bad habits"?

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Men's and Boys' Hats,
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Braids, Tape, Pins,
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